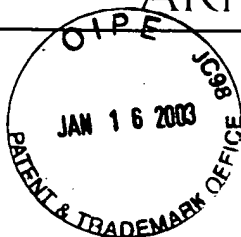


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ARNOLD & PORTER



January 16, 2003

Holly Logue Prutz
Holly_Prutz@aporter.com
202.942.5243
202.942.5999 Fax
555 Twelfth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004-1206

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Box Non-Fee Amendment

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/198,779
Filed: November 24, 1998
Title: **Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with the
Methionine Synthesis and Degradation Pathways**
Inventors: Stefan A. BLEDIG *et al.*
Atty. Docket No.: 16517.214

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO):

1. Second Amendment After Final Rejection; and
2. Return postcard.

Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing matter number 16517.214. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)
June E. Cohan (Reg. No. 43,741)

Attachments